

Mechanics' Bank  
(Norwegian Seamen's Church)  
22 S. Third Street  
Philadelphia  
Philadelphia County  
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-1443

HABS  
PA,  
51-PHILA,  
630-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

HABS  
PA  
J-PHILA  
630-

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE	COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY
PENNSYLVANIA	PHILADELPHIA	PHILADELPHIA
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME)		HABS NO.
MECHANICS' BANK		PA-1443
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
Norwegian Seamen's Church		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES)		
22 S. Third Street		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
1837	William Strickland, architect; John Struthers, builder (stonemason)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE)		
This small, early 19th century Greek Revival building is one of the last Philadelphia buildings designed by William Strickland. The bank held the property until 1904, and the church bought it in 1930.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS)		
Coursed granite ashlar front and stuccoed brick sides and rear.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE)		
Measures approx. 33' (three-bay front) X 58', two stories high (originally one).		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE		
Corinthian distyle in antis on front elevation, with two side pilasters and pediment. Large windows, typical of Greek Revival architecture.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
Banking Room and Directors' Room in one-floor building originally. Plain pilasters with cornices, bookcases, paneled interior shutters and skylight were among the original interior features. Arched brick vault in cellar.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES		
Small building added on the south side of and at rear of the banking room, ca. 1855; Interior renovated 1874 by James Windrim; interior altered for use as seamen's church and addition built 1930		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
Early 20th century photographic view of the bank is in the possession of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, Pa., in the "Miscellaneous Banks" file.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.)		
Webster, Richard. Philadelphia Preserved. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1976. 1837 insurance survey for Mechanics' Bank (name of company not known). 1855 follow-up insurance survey for Mechanics' Bank (name of company not known)		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION		DATE
Susan McCown, editor, Historic American Buildings Survey		May 1, 1984.